



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Contact: Sherry Llewellyn
sllewellyn@howardcountymd.gov
(410) 313-2236

Police Charge Driver in Fatal Motorcycle Crash

Howard County Police have charged a Columbia man in the July fatal crash that killed 19-year-old Andrew Noel at U.S. 29 and Interstate 70 in Ellicott City. Robert Neil Mecklenburg, 79, of Upwoods Lane was charged yesterday with failure to yield right of way, which carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and negligent driving, which carries a fine of up to \$500.

Noel was operating a 2007 Yamaha R6 traveling southbound on U.S. Route 29 on July 19 at 3 p.m., when a northbound 1998 Dodge Durango driven by Mecklenburg made a left turn in front of the motorcycle. Mecklenburg was attempting to enter the ramp to westbound Interstate 70.

The motorcycle struck the Dodge and Noel was pronounced dead at the scene. Mecklenburg was transported to Howard County General Hospital with minor injuries and later released.

In recent weeks, the Maryland State Highway Administration has modified the location of the crash by adding a stop sign and rumble strips.

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